25-041 (3 of 4): Modifications to the International Cross-Asset Volume Incentive Program



Timothy Elliott Managing Director and Chief Regulatory Counsel Legal Department

January 10, 2025

VIA ELECTRONIC PORTAL

Christopher J. Kirkpatrick Office of the Secretariat Commodity Futures Trading Commission Three Lafayette Centre 1155 21st Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20581

RE: Modifications to the International Cross-Asset Volume Incentive Program NYMEX Submission No. 25-041 (3 of 4)

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc. ("CME"), The Board of Trade of the City of Chicago, Inc. ("CBOT"), New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc. ("NYMEX"), and Commodity Exchange, Inc. ("COMEX") (collectively, the "Exchanges") hereby notify the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC" or "Commission") of modifications to the International Cross-Asset Volume Incentive Program ("IVIP" or "Program"). The modifications to the Program will become effective on February 1, 2025.

Exhibit 1 sets forth the terms of the Program. Modifications appear below, with additions <u>underlined</u> and deletions overstruck.

The Exchanges reviewed the designated contract market core principles ("Core Principles") as set forth in the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA"). During the review, the Exchanges' staff identified the following Core Principles as potentially being impacted: Monitoring of Trading, Execution of Transactions, Protection of Market Participants, Compliance with Rules, Availability of General Information, and Recordkeeping.

The Program does not impact the Exchanges' ability to perform their trade practice and market surveillance obligations under the CEA. The Exchanges' market regulation staff will monitor trading in the Program's products to prevent manipulative trading and market abuse. The incentives in the Program do not impact the Exchanges' order execution. Participants in the Program will be selected by the Exchanges' staff using criteria as further stated in Exhibit 1. Chapter 4 of the Exchanges' rules includes prohibitions against fraudulent, non-competitive, unfair or abusive practices. The Program is subject to these rules. The Program is subject to the Exchanges' record retention policies which comply with the CEA.

CME, CBOT, NYMEX, and COMEX certify that the Program complies with the CEA and the regulations thereunder. There were no substantive opposing views to this Program.

The Exchanges certify that this submission has been concurrently posted on the Exchanges' website at <u>http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html</u>.

If you require any additional information regarding this submission, please e-mail <u>CMEGSubmissionInquiry@cmegroup.com</u> or contact Rachel Johnson at 312-466-4393 or via e-mail at <u>Rachel.Johnson@cmegroup.com</u>.

Sincerely,

/s/ Timothy Elliott Managing Director and Chief Regulatory Counsel

Attachment: Exhibit 1

EXHIBIT 1

INTERNATIONAL CROSS-ASSET VOLUME INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Program Purpose

The purpose of this Program is to incentivize high volume proprietary trading arcades located outside North America to trade the products listed below. The resulting increase in liquidity in the products listed below benefits all participant segments in the market.

Product Scope

Certain CME, CBOT, NYMEX, and COMEX products that are available for trading on the CME Globex Platform; all CME Interest Rate options available for trading via open outcry (collectively, the "Products").

Eligible Participants

There is no limit to the number of participants that may participate in the Program. Participants must be distinct legal entities located outside of North America.

Additional Arcade Firm Requirements:

- Teams of individuals with joint profits and losses under a participating arcade firm must be registered and approved by the Exchanges to be eligible for discounted rates under the arcade firm. Teams that adjust their legal status for the purpose of achieving lower combined rates may not be accepted into the Program. If firms have affiliates based in North America, they must apply for an exception.
- Individual traders under the participating arcade firm must be receiving less than eighty percent (80%) of profits and losses* and:
 - Have primary income coming from trading;
 - Pay a desk fee;
 - Primarily trade from the physical location operated by the participating arcade firm;
 - Share risk with the participating arcade firm; and
 - Be available to receive product notices and education.

*Participants previously enrolled in the Program may receive up to ninety percent (90%) of profits and losses.

Program Term

Start date is November 1, 2012. End date is January 31, 2025 January 31, 2026, or the date on which the Exchanges determine to modify, extend, or terminate the Program. Participants will be given notice of any changes to the Program Term.

<u>Hours</u>

The incentives will apply to all trades made in the Products regardless of the execution time.

Obligations

For continued eligibility and incentive qualification, participants must maintain a combined average daily volume ("ADV") in the Products of 5,000 contracts (sides) measured over a given calendar quarter. Micro E-mini Equity Index products will be excluded from this ADV requirement.

Incentives

<u>Fee Discounts</u>: Upon meeting all obligations, as determined by the Exchanges, participants will receive the following incentives:

CME Globex OnlyIVIP All-in Fees (Per Side)CME Products\$0.89Agricultural – Futures1\$0.89Agricultural – Options1\$0.89Lumber Futures\$0.82Full Size Foreign Exchange – Futures (excluding FX Link)\$0.54Full Size Foreign Exchange – Futures via FX Link\$0.60Foreign Exchange – Options\$0.54E-mini Foreign Exchange Contracts\$0.54E-mini Foreign Exchange Contracts\$0.54E-mini Foreign Exchange Contracts\$0.57Full Size Equity Index – Futures\$1.10E-mini Equity Index – Futures (Outrights & Spreads excluding Dividend Index Futures)\$0.50E-mini Equity Index – Options\$0.50Case Schiller Housing Index – Futures\$0.18Micro E-Mini Equity Index – Options (Outrights & Spreads)\$0.10Nikkei/TOPIX Futures (Outrights & Spreads)\$1.10Interest Rate Futures (Front Months, Back Months, & Bundles)\$0.50Interest Rate Futures (Cross-Currency Basis)\$0.80Interest Rate Options\$0.50CBOT Products\$0.50Full Size Agricultural Futures Contracts1\$1.11Full Size Agricultural Options\$0.50Case Agricultural Options\$0.50	Product Category	
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ICS & CS Agricultural Options \$2.06		
E-mini Dow/DJ U.S. Real Estate \$0.75		
Micro E-Mini Dow Futures \$0.18		
Eris Swap Futures \$0.50		
Micro Treasury Yield Futures \$0.21		
TBA Futures \$0.50		
U.S. Treasury Futures \$0.54		
U.S. Treasury Options \$0.54		
Fed Fund Products \$0.49		
MAC Swap Futures \$0.49		

Product Category	
CME Globex Only	IVIP All-in Fees (Per Side)
NYMEX Products	(********)
Henry Hub Natural Gas Look-Alike Last Day Financial Futures (HH) ¹	\$0.90
Henry Hub Natural Gas Look-Alike Options (LN)	\$0.90
Henry Hub Natural Gas Futures (NG) ¹	\$0.90
Henry Hub Natural Gas Options (ON)	\$0.90
Light Sweet Crude Oil (WTI) Futures (CL) ¹	\$0.90
Light Sweet Crude Oil Options (LO)	\$0.90
NY Harbor ULSD Futures (HO) ¹	\$0.90
RBOB Gasoline Futures (RB) ¹	\$0.90
Natural Gas Weekly Financial Option (LN1 - LN5)	\$0.95
Crude Oil Friday Weekly Option (LO1 - LO5)	\$0.95
Crude Oil Monday Weekly Option (ML1 - ML5)	\$0.95
Crude Oil Wednesday Weekly Option (WL1 - WL5)	\$0.95
E-mini Crude Oil Futures (QM)	\$0.88
E-mini Natural Gas Futures (QG)	\$0.45
NYMEX Metals (PL, PA) ¹	\$1.00
COMEX Products – Futures Only	
Core Metal (GC, SI, HG) ¹	\$1.00
E-micro Gold (MGC) ⁴	\$0.20
1,000 oz. Silver (SIL)	\$0.40
Shanghai Gold (SGC, SGU)	\$1.00
Gold (Enhanced Delivery) Futures (4GC)	\$1.00

Product Category Pit Trading CME Products	IVIP All-in Fees (Per side)
Interest Rate Options	\$0.50

¹For the products denoted with a ¹ above, Globex TAS transactions will be excluded from the Program.

Monitoring and Termination of Status

The Exchanges shall monitor trading activity and participants' performance and shall retain the right to revoke participant status if it concludes from review that a participant no longer meets the eligibility requirements or fails to meet the obligations of the Program.

If a participant does not meet the minimum volume requirements during <u>any</u> one (1) calendar quarter of the Program, the participant will still be eligible to receive the incentives for that applicable quarter. In order to continue to receive the incentives, participants must meet the minimum volume requirements for all subsequent calendar quarters.